



# THE HEBL HERALD

*The Capitol connection for residents of the 46th Assembly District*

SPRING 2013 – 10TH EDITION

## GREETINGS FROM THE CAPITOL

Dear Friends & Neighbors:

As your State Representative in the 46th Assembly District, I would like to take a moment to reintroduce myself and offer my services to you. With the newly redrawn maps of assembly districts now in effect, the 46th Assembly district decreased in size due to the high population increase throughout the area. While I am saddened to lose portions of my district, I am pleased to know that I will be able to dedicate more of my time and resources to current constituents in the district.

The 2013-2014 Legislature is cur-

rently addressing a variety of issues that will have a large impact on the state of Wisconsin. Of particular importance, the Joint Committee on Finance is currently voting on sections of Governor Walker's 2013-15 biennium budget proposal. Once this phase is complete, the proposal will then move to the Legislature for consideration.

In order to best serve you in the Legislature, it is vital that I know what matters to you and your family. Please contact my office if you have any questions, views on legislation, or need assistance with any

state or legislative matter. I am truly honored to represent the citizens of the 46th Assembly District.



**Rep. Hebl speaking during session**

## VOUCHER SCHOOL EXPANSION

Our community here in Dane County is home not only to Wisconsin's flagship public university, but to countless successful technical colleges and public K-12 schools. It is my sincere belief that access to high-quality public education is the pathway to middle-class prosperity and building a sustainable economy here in Wisconsin. Unfortunately, it seems our state government has lost sight of this ideal in recent years, siphoning vital funds from our public school system to benefit unaccountable private voucher and charter schools.

Gov. Walker's 2013-15 state budget proposal creates a state deficit without including an increase in funding to the public school system. Since taking office, Gov. Walker has imposed

cuts of \$1.6 billion to public education and his current budget proposal does little to reverse this unfortunate trend.

In addition, Gov. Walker has included a provision that will allocate \$94 million to private voucher school expansion. This could result in a per-pupil increase of up to \$1,414 in some instances and would expand the voucher program to nine more school districts statewide. No school district has asked for the creation of private voucher schools; instead, Gov. Walker's proposal acts as an unwanted imposition of this flawed program.

Private voucher schools are exempt from many accountability standards that are necessary to ensure that our kids receive a quality

education. The Wisconsin public school system holds teachers to a high standard of qualifications and student performance and imposes rigorous requirements for graduation to better prepare students in our state for higher education and future employment.

**If you believe that the children in our community deserve an increase in public school funding under the 2013-15 budget, I ask that you please sign the online petition to stop voucher school expansion in Wisconsin.** You can access this petition by visiting my webpage at [www.garyhebl.com](http://www.garyhebl.com) and clicking on the "Stop Voucher School Expansion" link. All names signed onto the petition will be delivered to Gov. Walker in protest of this attack on our public school system.

# HEBL'S HELPFUL HINTS

*News You Can Use From Inside State Government*

## EXPANSION OF BADGERCARE IS GOOD FOR WISCONSIN

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 was one of the most important achievements of President Obama's first term. In the ACA, states were given the option to receive extra money from the federal government in order to expand Medicaid (known here in Wisconsin as BadgerCare) coverage to all low income families. Governor Walker has chosen to not accept the money and has decided not to expand BadgerCare.

The federal funds would cover the entirety of the expansions to BadgerCare for the first 3 years; after which, the federal government would cover 90% of the expansion's

cost. Instead, Gov. Walker has proposed a hybrid approach that includes tightening Medicaid income eligibility, lifting a cap on a program that covers childless adults, and forcing more people to buy in-



Rep. Hebl & WHA's Advocacy Day visitors

surance through a government-run marketplace known as an exchange. Gov. Walker's plan will cover around 28,000 fewer citizens, and, according to the conservative Heritage Foundation, will cost Wisconsin taxpayers \$495 million over the next 19 years.

Please join me in making our voice heard as we tell Gov. Walker that Wisconsin citizens want to accept federal funding to expand BadgerCare so that we can help provide our neighbors with adequate health care. Wisconsin has had a great tradition of public health care, let's continue that tradition going forward.

## "GRANT DEED" SCAM TARGETS AREA HOMEOWNERS

As summer approaches, area homeowners should be aware of at least two companies targeting Dane county homeowners that offer to send copies of "grant deeds" for an exorbitant \$86 fee. These offers have been arriving in mailboxes as official looking notices often marked "Final Notice," which may give homeowners the false impression that there is an official deadline for them to order a copy of their deed. If you receive one of these letters, please disregard it as there is no legal obligation to pay the requested fee.

There are less expensive and more direct ways to get a copy of your deed without having to pay a large fee or divulge personal information to an unidentified source. You can access the Dane County Register of Deeds TAPESTRY

service online at:

<https://tapestry.fidlar.com/Tapestry2/> and can print off your deed for \$7-10. In addition, you can order a copy by mail or in person at their physical location for a cost of \$2-8. The Dane County Register of Deeds Office can be contacted at:  
City County Building  
210 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Room 110  
Madison, WI 53703  
Phone: (608) 266-4141

Even though these solicitations are technically legal, they are very misleading and provide homeowners with no actual value. Because these solicitations charge exorbitant fees and unnecessarily alarm homeowners, I am currently drafting legislation that will require clear disclosure on any such solicitations. Under my proposal, any deed solicitation must clearly state that the letter requires no immedi-

ate action, only charge a reasonable fee, and would require such solicitors to notify the Register of Deeds in counties where they are sending solicitations. This will allow the Register to keep a closer eye on these transactions if the scam continues and to warn consumers about the solicitations.

Consumer protection has always been one of my top priorities during my tenure in the Legislature and I will work hard to ensure that this legislation becomes law.

